

2853



03500.015294

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

MASAHIKO KUBOTA, et al.

Application No.: 09/829,924

Filed: April 11, 2001

For: SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE,
INK TANK PROVIDED WITH
SUCH SEMICONDUCTOR
DEVICE, INK JET CARTRIDGE,
INK JET RECORDING
APPARATUS, METHOD FOR
MANUFACTURING SUCH
SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE,
AND COMMUNICATION
SYSTEM, METHOD FOR
CONTROLLING PRESSURE,
MEMORY ELEMENT,
SECURITY SYSTEM OF INK
JET RECORDING APPARATUS

Group Art Unit: 2853

August 20, 2003

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicants respectfully direct the Examiner's attention to the documents listed below and on the enclosed Form PTO-1449. A copy of each document so listed is enclosed.

- U.S. Patent 4,825,056
- U.S. Patent 4,861,964
- U.S. Patent 5,370,766
- U.S. Patent 5,529,831
- U.S. Patent 5,831,649
- U.S. Patent 6,003,966
- U.S. Patent 6,012,794
- U.S. Patent 6,019,449
- Europe 765,762
- Europe 794,060
- Europe 803,360

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Europe 812,693
Europe 903,237
Europe 925,936
Europe 956,963
Japan 56-39414
Japan 60-136363
Japan 2-14573
Japan 2-177406
Japan 2-272753

J.W. Haskell, "Ink Concentration Monitor", IBM Technical Disclosure Bulletin, Vol. 20, No. 2, July 1997

W.E. Broom, et al., "Continuous Liquid Level Sensor", IBM Technical Disclosure Bulletin, Vol. 23, No. 7B, December 1980

These documents were cited during prosecution of a European patent application corresponding to the above U.S. application. A copy of the European Search Report, which is dated July 4, 2003, is enclosed. In view of this date, it is hereby certified under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) that each document in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Statement. Moreover, inasmuch as this application has not yet received an action on the merits, it is believed that this Information Disclosure Statement is timely. See 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(3).

Other documents cited in the Search Report have been cited in the Information Disclosure Statement dated January 7, 2003.

The concise explanation of relevance for the non-English documents cited above is provided in the European Search Report and by the English language abstracts included with the cited art. The Examiner is, of course, referred to the European Examiner's comments on the English language documents as well.

The Examiner is urged to study this information in its entirety and to form an independent determination of the materiality of the information to the claimed

invention. Additionally, the Examiner is requested to indicate that this information has been considered by initialling the appropriate portion of Form PTO-1449.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa office by telephone at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,

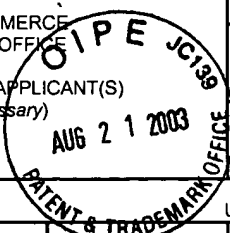

Attorney for Applicants

Registration No.

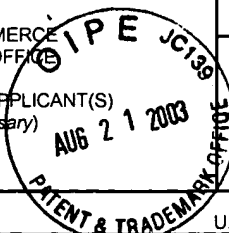
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FORM PTO 1449 (modified) U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT(S) (Use several sheets if necessary)				ATTY DOCKET NO. 03500.015294		APPLICATION NO. 09/829,924	
				APPLICANT Masahiko Kubota, et al.			
				FILING DATE April 11, 2001		GROUP 2853	
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
		4,825,056	4/25/89	Ohta, et al	235	449	
		4,861,964	8/29/89	Sinohara	219	121.68	
		5,370,766	12/6/94	Desaigoudar, etal	156	643	
		5,529,831	6/25/96	Waga, et al	428	209	
		5,831,649	11/3/98	Watrobowski, et al	3117	19	
		6,003,966	12/21/99	Ahn	347	7	
		6,012,794	1/11/00	Nakano, et al	347	7	
		6,019,449	2/1/00	Bullock, et al	347	14	
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES/NO/ OR ABSTRACT
		765,762	4/2/97	Europe			
		794,060	9/10/97	Europe			
		803,360	10/29/97	Europe			
		812,693	12/17/97	Europe			
		903,237	3/24/99	Europe			
OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)							
EXAMINER				DATE CONSIDERED			

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of form with next communication to applicant.

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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES/NO/ OR ABSTRACT
		925,936	6/30/99	Europe			
		956,963	11/17/99	Europe			
		56-39414	4/15/81	Japan			Abstract
		60-136363	7/19/85	Japan			Abstract
		2-14573	1/18/90	Japan			Abstract
		2-177406	7/10/90	Japan			Abstract
		2-272753	11/7/90	Japan			Abstract
OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)							
		J.W. Haskell, "Ink Concentration Monitor", IBM Technical Disclosure Bulletin, Vol. 20, No. 2, July 1977					
		W. E. Broom, et al., "Continuous Liquid Level Sensor", IBM Technical Disclosure Bulletin, Vol. 23, No. 7B, December 1980					
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